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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/523,044	03/10/2000	Takao Chihara	1503.63657	4484

7590

07/08/2003

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2003

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/523,044		CHIHARA ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Namitha Pillai		2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, 6 and 8-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5-6 and 8-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 6 and 8 are objected to because of the following informalities: the previous claim number "4" must be stricken from the claims. Claims 6 and 8 were treated as depending from claim 1 for examining purposes. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 5-6 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 6,061,516 (Yoshikawa et al.) and U. S. Patent No. 5,179,700 (Aihara et al.).

Referring to claims 1, 9 and 10, Yoshikawa discloses a graphical user interface screen generating apparatus that has an extraction unit for extracting screen data from a character-based user interface screen, as seen in Figure 3, the screen data including field information of an output field and an input-output field (column 1, lines 29-33, column 7, lines 11-17 and column 8, lines 20-23). Yoshikawa also discloses a naming unit specifying control names of the fields in the graphical user interface based on a character string of the field information (column 11, lines 48-51, lines 55-56 and Figure 7). The names of these controls are registered as the control name of the fields in a memory, as seen in Figure 1, which includes information such as the fields names of the controls, it is shown that the computer (reference number 2, Figure 1) would have a memory which would hold this information (column 6, lines 18-20 and Figure 1). Yoshikawa

discloses naming the controls wherein, the output and fixed fields clearly have control names that are associated with each other, wherein as seen in Figure 7, the fixed field is the output field which is in the vicinity of output field and hence the output field has a control name that is associated with the fixed field that is in the vicinity of the fixed field. Nonetheless, as recited in the claims, Yoshikawa does not clearly describe the same case for the input-output fields that are disclosed in the invention. Aihara does disclose the same conversion of a character based user interface into a graphical user interface, as disclosed by Yoshikawa, but goes further to disclose that the input-output fields in Aihara's invention has control names, wherein the graphical user interface screen is based on a character string of the field information of the output field in the vicinity of the input-output field (Figures 9 and 10). In Figure 10, the control names of the input-output fields, for "USER ID" and "PASSWORD" are clearly associated with the character string information of the output field that are in the vicinity of these control fields as also seen by the depiction of this screen in Figure 7. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention to learn from Aihara to implement a means for naming the input-output field name based on the output field that is closet to the input-output field. Both Yoshikawa and Aihara have been means for converting the character based user interface into a graphical user interface, this process involving renaming of the field names and other variables used for setting up the new screen. Thus both these disclosures deal with extracting information from the old screen and forming new control names based on these extracted information. Yoshikawa does have a naming means for the controls of the screens but does not clearly discuss the naming rules for its input-output field, wherein these fields would be named based on the character string of the output field nearest to it. Aihara teaches precisely such a method for naming these input-

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output fields, which makes it simpler to identify the use of this input-output field rather than the field names used by Yoshikawa in identifying their input-output fields as seen in Figure 7 of Yoshikawa. Hence, one skilled in the art would have been motivated, at the time of the invention to learn from Aihara to implement a method wherein the input-output control name would be based on the output character string information that is nearest to the input-output field.

Referring to claims 5 and 11, Yoshikawa and Aihara disclose that the control name of the input-output field based on the character string of the output field which is before the input-output field and exists closest to the input-output field, as is the case of the fields and control names "password" and "userid", as seen in Figure 7 of Aihara.

Referring to claim 6, Yoshikawa and Aihara discloses adding a specific character string to one of the registered control names, the control names being either those for the input-output fields and the output field, during the field setting process (Yoshikawa, column 11, lines 56-66 and column 12, lines 1-3).

Referring to claim 8, Yoshikawa and Aihara disclose that a group of predetermined control name specifying rules and regulations are used for adding the specific character string to one of the registered control names of the screen, the controls being input-output fields and output fields (Yoshikawa, column 11, lines 47-67).

Response to Claim Changes

3. The Examiner acknowledges the Applicant's amendment narrowing the scope of claims 1, 5-6, 8-11. Applicant has specified the claims to clearly explain the invention. However, the amended claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Yoshikawa and Aihara.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 6/2/03 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

With respect to applicant's argument, that Yoshikawa does not having a naming unit specifying control names and storing these control names in a memory unit. The Applicant themselves has disclosed that Yoshikawa has rules that are used in order to assign names to different fields of a screen, such a method, clearly showing a naming means for naming the control names of the fields in a screen. Yoshikawa does not clearly disclose the naming of the input-output fields, wherein the control name of this field is based on the character string of field information of an output field in the vicinity of the input-output field. But as stated in the rejection of claims 1, 9 and 10, Aihara does disclose naming the input-output field based on the output field information of the field nearest to the input-output field, wherein Yoshikawa and Aihara both involve having to name control fields mainly for the purpose of converting the character based user interface into a graphical user interface.

With respect to applicant's argument, that Yoshikawa does not disclose that the control names of the fields of a GUI are based on the name of an output field on a CUI screen. As stated in the claims, what is disclosed in the Applicants invention is the extraction of "information" concerning fields on a CUI and using this "information" to determine the names of the control fields of a GUI. Yoshikawa clearly discusses extracting screen and field information from the CUI screen to determine the names of the controls for the GUI screen.

With respect to applicant's argument, that Yoshikawa does not resolve the problem of how to determine the name of each field on a GUI screen in such a way that persons other than a

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programmer can easily understand them. Yoshikawa naming means may not but Aihara clearly does have a naming means, wherein the names of the input-output fields “userid” and “password” clearly makes it possible for persons other than a programmer to easily understand them.

With respect to applicant’s argument, that Yoshikawa does not disclose determining the control name of the input-output field on a GUI screen based on the character string of an output field in the vicinity of input-output field on a CUI screen. Concerning the naming of the input-output field, Aihara does disclose the names of the fields, “userid” and “password” and as clearly seen in Figure 6 and the code and variable representation of this in screen in Figure 9, there is a clear correlation between the name of the input-output field in the GUI screen with that of the output field name in CUI screen.

With respect to applicant’s argument, that Yoshikawa appears to be premised on the idea that previously defined document information may be used to produce GUI fields. As stated in the claims, wherein the extracted information from the CUI is used to name the fields of the new GUI screen, both the Applicant and Yoshikawa suggest that previously defined document information from the CUI is used to produce the GUI fields in some way, wherein the new names may be slightly modified as seen in Figure 7 of Yoshikawa and the naming rules for the new screen (column 11, lines 29-40), but previously defined data is used nonetheless, as stated in the claims and Yoshikawa.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider

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these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach the method for generating a user interface.

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 746-7238 may be used for formal After Final communications, (703) 746-7239 for Official communications, or (703) 746-7240 for Non-Official or draft communications. NOTE: A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (703) 305-7691. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly

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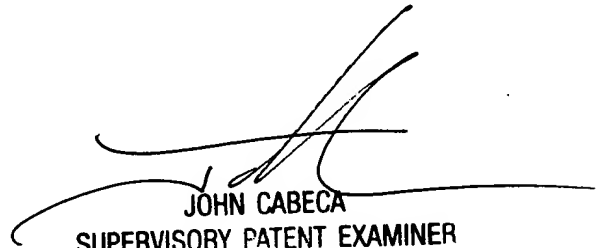
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set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
June 26, 2003



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